

Vernon County Soil & Water Conservation District

Volume 2,
**Summer/Fall
Edition**

DISTRICT POLICY FOR COST SHARE SIGN UP.....

If you are interested in signing up for cost share we require that you stop by our office and fill out a form indicating which practices you are interested in. Your name then goes on our cost share list and as money becomes available we work through the list of landowners signed up for each practice by the date of sign up.

We do not put names on the cost share list by phone.

District Cost Share

We have started our new fiscal year and that means some changes for landowners interested in using our cost share program. Due to the down turn in the economy our sales tax revenues are down and DNR Soil & Water Program has reduced the funds for cost share practices.

To make sure that the cost share funds are implemented in a way that benefits as many landowners as possible, the Vernon County SWCD Board of Supervisors made two new policies at the June board meeting that will hopefully make this happen. Effective from that date on, all cost share contracts will have a 90 day termination date and will only be extended one time for an additional 90 days. If the practice is not completed within that six month time frame it will be cancelled and no cost share will be paid. Another policy set by the board states that all cost share practices must be completed and paperwork turned in by June 15 for the landowner to receive cost share money. No practices will be allowed to be rolled over into the next fiscal year.

We will not have enough funding to assist everyone interested so we want to insure that each landowner that gets cost share money will make very effort to complete the practice in the allowed time. This is a contract and we must treat it that way.

We will do our best to work with the landowners and we will need your cooperation to accomplish more practices implemented for our county.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the state cost share program please contact our office anytime from Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 417-667-8137 x3.

CALENDAR

August Board Meeting
08/26/2010 @ 8:00 PM
100 W Allison, Nevada

September 6, 2010
Labor Day—Office Closed

September Board Meeting
09/23/2010 @ 8:00 PM
100 W Allison, Nevada

October 11, 2010
Columbus Day—Office Closed

October Board Meeting
10/28/201 @ 8:00 PM
100 W Allison, Nevada

November 11, 2010
Veterans Day—Office Closed

December Board Meeting
TBA

December 24, 2010
Observe Christmas Holiday
Office Closed

December 31, 2010
Observe New Year's Day Holiday
Office Closed

There will be a sign up for CRP from August 2 through August 27, 2010. For more information contact your local FSA Office.

Acres have to physically and legally crop-able.

Vernon County

NEW COST SHARE PRACTICES FY2011

Vernon County SWCD has the following rental equipment available:

No-till 10 Ft Drill
\$8.50/ac (\$75 minimum)

No-till 7 Ft Drill
\$7.00/ac (\$75 minimum)

Scraper
\$100.00/day (\$100 minimum)

Mulcher
\$75.00/ac (\$75 minimum)

Pasture Renovator
\$100/day (\$100 minimum)

Seeder
.75 cents/ac (\$20 minimum)

Root Plow
\$10/day

Burn Equipment
\$25/day or \$3 per piece/day
(2) Drip Torches

(2) Swatters

(1) Rake

The Vernon County SWCD Board of Supervisors made eligible three water quality practices that can start being used July 1, 2010. These practices will help in reducing sediment, pesticide and nutrient runoff into our county's water sources.

The N386 Field Border practice will help reduce erosion from wind and water. Permanent vegetation strips will be established on crop land around the borders of fields at a minimum width of 30 feet and a maximum width of 60 feet. A one time out of production incentive of \$600 per acre will be issued along with a 75% reimbursement of the county average cost to establish the borders.

The N393 Filter Strip practice will help filter out sediment, pesticides and nutrients from entering our streams and permanent water bodies. These strips will be established on crop land adjacent to streams and around permanent water bodies at a minimum of 25 feet and a maximum of 100 feet. A one time out of production incentive of \$1000 per acre will be issued along with the 75% reimbursement to establish the practice.

The third practice approved is the WQ10 Stream Protection practice. This practice may be applied on acres immediately adjacent to permanent or intermittent streams, streams containing perennial pools or natural wetlands and where livestock has uncontrolled access for watering purposes. The purpose of this practice is to reduce organic and sediment runoff from entering our streams. An exclusion fence will be established adjacent to these streams at a minimum of 25 feet and a maximum of 150 feet from the stream's edge to exclude livestock access. The stream would need to be then the sole drinking source for the livestock. The program will help establish a water source and distribution system to provide drinking water to the livestock at a 75% reimbursement of the county average cost. A one time out of production incentive will be offered at \$500 per acre.

For more information on these practices, contact our office at 417-667-8137 x3.

Funds for cost-share practices offered by local Soil and Water Conservation Districts are provided through Missouri's 1/10% Parks and Soils Sales Tax.

Fed, Farmers and Friends Feed Families.....

Is now underway. Now is a great chance for you to help in the nationwide food drive with the USDA. Our office has joined the effort of the USDA to combat hunger throughout the country. The goal is to collect 1.2 million pounds of food this summer nationwide. The Vernon County USDA office at 100 W Allison has a basket available to anyone who would like to be a part of this effort. We will collection food through the end of August to donate to the local food pantry. Please feel free to drop by any non-perishable items or call our office at 417-667-8137 x3 for information. We appreciate any help that you can give.



Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) recently unveiled the Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative (MBHI). The initiative aims to maximize migratory bird habitat and food resources on up to 150,000 acres of private land. The acreage will provide critical wintering habitat for a significant number of waterfowl, wading birds, sparrows and other birds.

Participating landowners receive payments through the Wetlands Reserve, Wildlife Habitat Incentives and Environmental Quality Incentives programs. The three programs are part of the federal farm bill. The MBHI is expected to make \$1.9 million available to Missouri landowners for wetland-friendly practices.

Agricultural land in parts of eight Gulf Coast and Lower Mississippi Valley states are eligible for MBHI enrollment. Eligible counties in Missouri are: Bates, Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Cole, Cooper, Dunklin, Johnson, Lafayette, Mississippi, Moniteau, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Ripley, Saline, Scott, Stoddard and Vernon.

"This is an urgent situation," said Keith Jackson, private land programs supervisor for the Missouri Department of Conservation. "Some of the affected birds arrive in Missouri as early as mid-July. Birds ranging from mallards and herons to songbirds are going to find their traditional wintering areas along the Gulf Coast severely impaired by the ongoing oil spill. One important way to help them is to make sure they come through their southward migration in good condition. Enhancing the availability of natural foods and resting areas in Missouri can help them get through the coming winter."

The MBHI encourages farmers, ranchers and other private landowners to manage their land in ways that create or enhance wetland habitat.

"I am very appreciative of the Missouri Department of Conservation for joining in this effort with NRCS to provide additional stopover habitat for these birds," says NRCS State Conservationist J. R. Flores. "Providing more food and foraging opportunities will give the birds more energy reserves if faced with limited habitat around the coastline."

Eligible lands include wetlands farmed under natural conditions, existing farmed wetlands and prior converted croplands. Rice fields are particularly suited for this initiative, as are aquaculture farms (catfish and crayfish) no longer in production, since they can easily be flooded to provide these immediate habitat conditions.

Shallow water, ranging from mudflats to less than one foot, is key to creating suitable habitat. Most shorebirds forage in water less than 4 inches deep; most other water birds, including waterfowl, forage in water less than 12 inches deep.

Printed from article on MDC website. Poster by Jim Low.

SWCD Cost Share Practices

DSL-1 Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement'

DSL-4 Terrace Systems

DSL-44 Terrace Systems with Tile

DSL-5 Diversions

DSL-11 Permanent Vegetative Cover on Critical Areas

DSL-15 To Till Systems

DWC-1 Water Impoundment Reservoirs

DWP-1 Sediment Retention, Erosion or Water Control Structures

DWP-3 Waterways

DSP-2 Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement

DSP-3 Planned Grazing Systems

N590 Nutrient Management

N595 Pest Management

N442 Irrigation System Sprinkler

N351 Well Decommissioning

N386 Field Border

N393 Filter Strip

WQ10 Stream Protection

WOMEN IN AG CONFERENCE

Women from throughout Missouri who are involved in some aspect of agriculture are invited to come together September 13-15 in Branson, site of the 16th Annual Women in Ag Conference. The Conference, with a "Growing in Harmony" theme, will include a tour of the College of the Ozarks, a higher-education environment in which students couple curriculum with hands-on farm production, industry and managerial work experience.

Conference participants also can choose among workshops covering a variety of topics, including: an overview of state and federal programs that provide technical and financial assistances; financial trust basics; awareness of Homeland Security issues associated with the agricultural community; farm-management skills; growing, preserving and using organic herbs; archery; and other optional networking sessions.

Conference speakers will provide insight for achieving greater independence and a healthier lifestyle.





Vernon County Soil & Water Conservation District

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We're on the web at www.swcd.mo.gov/vernon



Board of Supervisors: Wade Rapp, Kerry Fowler, Wayne Harth, Fred Feldmann and Pat Miller.

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